



THE FREE SOUTH.

VOLUME II.

BEAUFORT, SOUTH CAROLINA, APRIL 9, 1864.

NUMBER 14.

[For the Free South.]

The Picket Monitor before Charleston.

The night is dark and dreary now,
And silent as the tomb,
Except when o'er the moaning waves
Is heard the sullen boom
Of some bold "Parrott," cag'd in Gregg,
Which, speaking plain as life,
Sends its dread messenger of death
To those who caus'd the strife.

But what is that which, spectre-like,
Shows its dark figure there?
Who said "a chess-box on a raft"
Could boast so bold an air?
Ah, yes! 'tis it, a "Monitor,"
Like champion Knight of old,
And its lone tower, by Vulcan forg'd,
Frowns on the rebel hold.

No sound is heard on that low craft,
The waters clasp it deep;
Yet there are eyes to pierce the gloom
While some are wrapt in sleep:
The hatch is down, and o'er the deck
The waves now wildly dash;
And 'mid the raging elements
Is seen a signal flash.

A rebel "ram" is on the way,
To take a midnight glance;
Perhaps to gaze on Sumter's corse,
Perhaps to get a chance
Of testing her new coat of mail,—
If so, she's sure to feel
The vengeance of a fifteen-inch,
And hear its thund'ring peal.

Light hearts are in that iron keep,
They gladly hail the strife;
To grapple with the traitor foe,
They nobly peril life;

The brave old Flag that o'er them floats
Shall never sink from view,
While there remains one stalworth arm
To God and Country true.

But see! the intruder hesitates,
A thought has crossed her mind;
The hallow'd name "Weehawken"
Is whispered by the wind:
For though she rests beneath the wave,
Not dead, but in a trance,
That word recalls the Atlanta's fate,
That's why she won't advance.

And thus it is the Monitors
Keep night-watch o'er the fleet;
Mutual in *Pavos* as they are,
Their iron hail would greet
The coming of *Sece's* best,
And scourge her from the main;—
Bright be the name of Ericson,
The son of Tubal Cain!
P. W. CANNON, Morris Island, S.C.

Edward Everett on our Navy and the Alabama.

Edward Everett, who presided at the dinner given by the merchants of Boston to the Naval Committee of Congress, in March, made an eloquent speech concerning our navy and its work. After alluding to the extraordinary growth of our naval force since the beginning of the war, he said:

Every ship yard, public and private, has been tested to its utmost capacity; every furnace in the country has been kept at white heat night and day, and an amount of work has been performed on the coast and rivers, and a series of results achieved, without a parallel, as I believe, when the disadvantages are considered under which the navy labored at the commencement, in naval history. Let Norfolk, Hatteras, Roanoke Island, Port Royal, Pensacola, the Rio Grande, Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Island No. Ten, Memphis, Vicksburg, Port Hudson, the shattered fragments of Sumter, Fort Jackson and Fort St. Philip, the city of New Orleans; the *Atlanta*, demolished by five shots from the *Weehawken*: 1,045 vessels captured from the enemy up to the first of November, and from 70 to 80 since added: the closure of every port save one, and that guarded by twenty vessels, on this immense line of coast, bear witness to the activity and efficiency of this arm of the service. I need not, of course, disclaim any thought of undervaluing what has been done by our noble armies and their gallant commanders, who have borne their full share in many of these achievements, but I am sure that they, one and all, will do justice to the efficient co-operation of the navy.

And then that marvelous creation of the genius and skill of Ericsson, the wonder of the age, the turreted monitor. If there is an incident in the history of the war,

which more than any other deserves to be referred to as a direct interposition of an overruling Providence, it is the arrival of the heaven-directed little vessel at Fortress Monroe, after her rough, uncomfortable voyage from New York, on the evening of March 8th, 1862, at the close of a day of havoc, I had almost said of terror. The mind recoils from the contemplation of the State of things which would have existed had the ravages of the *Merrimac* been renewed on the morning of the 9th.

But the avenger was at hand; after an all but sleepless voyage from New York of fifty-six hours, in a vessel whose construction—whose strange enginery—whose armament—whose capacity for offensive or defensive service were all untried, the gallant Worden, at sunrise the next morning, bore calmly down to the encounter with his gigantic adversary, amidst the wrecks of his yesterday's devastations, (the topmasts of the sunken *Cumberland* peering mournfully above the waters, the *Congress* burned to the water's edge, the *Minnesota*, marked out as the next victim, helplessly aground), went round and round him, to use the graphic language of an eye-witness, "as a cooper goes round a cask," and drove him crippled and discomfited back to his harbor, never more to leave it until he went up self-destroyed in fragments to the sky. [Great applause.]

When the noble young commander of the *Monitor* dropped upon the floor of his pilot house, stunned, lacerated, blackened and bleeding, with scarcely a vestige of humanity in his manly countenance, he had inaugurated a new era in naval warfare! When the iron-clads and monitors now in course of construction are completed, we shall have, upon our coasts and in our harbors, a defensive force which will relieve us from all possibility of foreign aggression.

But this torpid, inefficient, fossil navy do not catch the *Alabama*! No, nor did torpid, inefficient, lazy Nelson, in command of the fleet with which he fought the battle of the Nile, catch Napoleon with a force in ships of war and transports of more than four hundred vessels, shadowing the sea for miles, though he chased him, or rather thought he chased him, round the Mediterranean, from the 19th of May till the 1st of August, as the cat chases her tail, Napoleon stopping, by way of episode, to capture Malta on the way, and on the 22d of June actually crossing the track of Nelson a few hours before.

Neither was he caught by the English, Russian and Turkish fleets—the English still commanded by Nelson—when the following year he returned by a voyage of six or seven weeks from Egypt to France, passing a week with his relations at Ajaccio, by the way. Neither was he caught in 1815 on his passage from Elba, though the English knew he was plotting his escape, and a French cruiser hailed him on the way, and hearing his corvette was from Elba, enquired how the Emperor was, who answered in person that he "was perfectly well." The Mediterranean is but a mill pond compared with the seas over which the *Alabama* roams, and whenever the pirate is hard pressed, he slips into a neutral port. [Applause.] It of course must be by mere chance if he is ever captured.

CAMPBELL'S "HOHENLINDEN."—Every Englishman remembers Campbell's noble poem of "Hohenlinden," but few perhaps had considered, until Sir Edward Cust led the way, how entirely that poem misrepresents all the circumstances of the battle which it has made so famous. It is about as near the fact as is David's celebrated picture of Bonaparte crossing the Alps on a prancing charger to the reality of the passing of the St. Bernard. The essence of the poetical Hohenlinden is a night attack; but the true battle of Hohenlinden began at eight or nine o'clock in the morning. It is very likely that the river Iser flows swift and dark in winter; but it flows many miles from Hohenlinden; it does indeed wash the walls of Munich, and banners may have waved upon those walls; nor would their waving have had less influence upon the battle because invisible, through distance, from the scene. The only feature common to the real and the imaginary spectacle was the snow which fell heavily during, although it did not cover the ground before the battle. Perhaps the poet never heard

that slash and mud were the allies of France at Hohenlinden, and that Moreau won the battle by judging accurately how long his assailant would stick and struggle in the forest paths, where it was no more possible to rush to glory than it is to gallop over an Alpine ridge.

Proclamation by President Lincoln.

WASHINGTON, March 26, 1864.

Whereas, it has become necessary to define the cases in which insurgent enemies are entitled to the benefits of the proclamation of the President of the United States, which was made on the 8th day of December, 1863, and the manner in which they shall proceed to avail themselves of these benefits; and whereas, the objects of that proclamation were to suppress the insurrection and restore the authority of the United States; and whereas, the amnesty therein proposed by the President was offered with reference to these objects alone,

Now, therefore, I, ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President of the United States, do hereby proclaim and declare, that the said proclamation does not apply to the case of persons who, at the time when they seek the benefits thereof by taking the oath thereby prescribed, are in military, naval or civil confinement or custody, or under bonds, or on parole of the civil, military or naval authorities or agents of the United States, as prisoners of war, or persons detained for offences of any kind, either before or after conviction, and that, on the contrary, it does apply only to these persons who, being yet at large and free from any arrest, confinement or duress, shall voluntarily come forward and take the said oath, with the purpose of restoring peace and establishing the national authority.

Prisoners excluded from the amnesty offered in the said proclamation may apply to the President for clemency, like all other offenders, and their application will receive due consideration.

I do further declare and proclaim that the oath prescribed in the aforesaid proclamation of the 8th of December, 1863, may be taken and subscribed before any commissioned officer, civil, military or naval, in the service of the United States, or any civil or military officer of a State or Territory not in insurrection, who, by the laws thereof, may be qualified for administering oaths.

All officers who receive such oaths are hereby authorized to give certificates having thereon the names of the persons respectively by whom they are made; and such officers are hereby required to transmit the original records of such oaths, at as early a day as may be convenient, to the Department of State, where they will be deposited and remain in the archives of the government.

The Secretary of State will keep a registry thereof, and will, on application, in proper cases, issue certificates of such records in the customary form of official certificates.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington, the 26th day of March, in the year of our Lord 1864, and of the Independence of the United States the eighty-eighth.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President: WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

ARKANSAS.—This State, at an election just held, has adopted, by an immense majority, a Constitution forever prohibiting slavery! Think of that for Arkansas, the land of the Bowie-knife and the revolver, of duelling and lynch law! Gov. Isaac Murphy and the whole Free State ticket are elected. Guerrilla bands made violent threats. Nevertheless the citizens were enthusiastic in their determination to vote the State back into the Union, many going to the polls at the risk of their lives. The military authorities used every exertion to protect voters. About 10,000 votes were polled, and only a small number, voted against the free Constitution! The Legislature will meet next month to elect Senators to Congress; the election has already taken place for Representatives to the House. The whole machinery of the State government will soon be in operation throughout all parts of the State which have been reclaimed from rebel control, now amounting to nearly four-fifths.

Life is happy at moments. Has any one ever added these moments together? If so, what is the sum?

Clippings.

PRETTY GOOD.—A correspondent, doubtless a believer in two terms all around, sends us the following:

Why are Lincoln and Hamlin "one and inseparable?" Behold the reason!

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.—*Brooklyn Union*.

Rev. Mr. Robie, of the *Buffalo Advertiser*, says: "Some complain that there are so many naughty soldiers in town. What if they do act a little wayward occasionally? Home and social friendships press hard upon them when furloughed and relaxed from duty. We have known them for months together when they were compelled to be as sober as deacons. While at home and among friends they feel, we suppose, like birds released from a cage. But the hard and stern duties of the field will be felt again by these defenders of our country."

A letter from New-Orleans to a New-England organ of Gen. Banks, written in defense of his existing serfage system in Louisiana says:

"Tobias Gibson, one of the most extensive planters in Louisiana, freely expressed to me in conversation his belief in compensated free black labor, and said that Gen. Banks's order had already saved him \$100,000."

Precisely. Saved the planter \$100,000, and saved it at the expense of the half-emancipated half-reenslaved, blacks whom Gen. Banks compels to work for \$8 a month, though the planter can richly afford three times that amount.

A new style of shell, invented by Capt. William S. Williams, of Ohio, has recently been successfully experimented with at Vicksburg, in a 20 pound Parrott gun. One shell, weighing twenty pounds, was, by this means of explosion, broken into one hundred and twenty-seven pieces, which surpasses any of a similar kind now in use.

THE NEW MONITOR MONADNOCK, just launched at Boston, is built entirely of oak, except her deck and turret, and is coppered all below her armor, in which she differs from any other monitor. She has two turrets 90 feet apart, of iron, 11 inches thick, of one-inch plates, each to carry two 15-inch guns. Her speed will be about six knots an hour. She has been two years building and will be completed in about three months.

A gentleman in one of the towns in Maine enlisted last week, but the surgeons rejected him on account of his teeth. He insisted that he would carry a coffee mill that would fix hard tack so that he could eat it.

An infamous old bachelor, being asked if he ever witnessed a public execution, replied, "No, but I once saw a marriage."

Why is Senator Sprague responsible for the tightness in the money market? Because he has the sole custody of Secretary Chase's first issue.

To win the regard of some people, give your hand to assist them along; to gain the respect of others, help them on with your foot.

"Tommy, what does b-e-n-e-h spell?" "Don't know ma'am." "What, you little numbskull, what are you sitting on?" Tommy (looking sheepish)—"I don't like to tell."

Miss Braddon, the author of the sensation novels, has gratefully married her publisher. They will hereafter issue some lively works.

More than half the number of votes ordinarily polled in the times of peace, were cast in several counties of Tennessee at the recent election. When it is remembered that a large number of the men are absent in the rebel army, it is clear that a very large proportion of the population take an active interest in the reconstruction.

Some Indiana soldiers on a scout in the mountains of Georgia, came upon a house occupied only by an old woman. "Well, old lady, what are you secesh?" said the leader. "No," said she. "What then?" "Baptist," said she, promptly, "and always was."

The total receipts of Sanitary Fairs held since November last, commencing with the Pioneer Fair at Chicago, is estimated at over one million of dollars. The people of New York are predicting that the Metropolitan Fair, to open in that city on the 28th inst., will produce a million more, while those interested in the Mississippi Valley Fair, to be held in St. Louis, are estimating their receipts in advance at \$500,000.